RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

NOVEMBER 1985 232 Ogden Avenue – Jersey City, N.J. 07307 – (201) 798-0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL.

COUNCIL MEMBERS SPEAK AT RNA

At the October meeting, Glenn Cunningham (right) speaks to the members of the RNA; at his right, Bernadette O'Reilly-Lando.

The October meeting of the RNA was well attended. Those present were fortunate to hear guest speakers Glenn Cunningham and Bernadette O'Reilly-Lando (Councilpeople-at-large), and Councilman Joseph "Buddy" Brooks (Ward C) address the issue of reopening Mountain Road and other local issues. Buddy Brooks spoke at an RNA meeting earlier this year, but this was RNA's first chance to get to know Councilpeople Lando and Cunningham. Both impressed the group with their knowledge of local issues, sincere concern and accountability. The reopening of Mountain Road (pursuantt RNA's vote to do so) is of pressing concern. RNA passed a motion for Brooks and Lando to contact the Dept. of Public Works to see if the road can be repaired using cobblestones and reopened. The result of this investigation are carried in this issue under the title: *MOUNTAIN ROAD UPDATE.*

Our October 8th meeting coincided with the City Council's decision to send proposed Rent Control legislation back to committee for further study. The Council arranged a meeting with Housing & Development officials, representatives of various city agencies and the community to discuss rent control, for October 9th at Martin Luther King school (PS 11). The council decided to remand the proposed legislation to committee because they have found the issue so complex, they wanted to carefully consider it before rushing a measure through. Currently, rent control regulates buildings with 5 or more family units.

Good news for Jersey City came in the form of 65 newly graduated "rookies" from the Police Academy. Police presence in our neighborhood has become more visible, as "walking tours" have begun, according to Glenn Cunningham. He hopes the police will keep up this activity regularly, whenever possible. RNA President Vito Brunetti urged residents to get to know the new officers and acquaint them with the problem areas in the neighborhood.

Ellen Boggs

The Mayor Comes to RNA

Riverview Neighborhood Association is proud to announce that at our November 12th meeting, we will have Mayor Anthony Cucci as our main guest. At this gathering, the Mayor will become acquainted with our neighborhood and also present his position on numerous issues important to us locally and citywide.

Councilman Chester Kaminski, Buddy Brooks and Thomas Hart will also attend this meeting.

Please come on time to this important gathering and bring your neighbors and friends. Let's show our new administration the interest and concern that our neighborhood has in its future.

Mountain Road Update

At the Oct. 8th meeting, Councilpeople O'Reilly-Lando, Brooks and Cunningham all stated their commitment to helping RNA reopen Mountain Road. A few days after the meeting, Councilman Brooks confirmed the existence of approximately 1,000 cobblestones at the Department of Public Works to be used in the repair of the Road. Brooks is also arranging for the DPW to weed the approaches and sides of the Road in order to clean it up. He is planning to submit an ordinance to the City Council banning commercial traffic on the Road.

RNA has met with John Moersdorf, the Director of Streets and Sewers, who stated that work would begin on the Road the week of November 18th.

Councilman Cunningham has inquired the Business Administration office to see if funds are available from the Capital Improvement Program to recondition and beautify the Road.

On Friday, Nov. 1, Councilman Brooks and Cunningham, Municipal Judge Severiano Lisboa, Sanitation Inspector Thomas Harrison and members of RNA met at City Hall to discuss the Court's policy of "light penalties" for illegal dumpers. Besides pushing for stiffer fines, two ideas were developed: rewarding 25% of the fine to citizens who provide tips leading to the conviction of dumpers and swearing in

(Continued on page 4)

FALL HARVEST PARTY — VITO BRUNETTI

"You should have been there to see the look in the residents eyes. It was glorious. It was worth it all." That was the feeling of all the participants at the Fall Harvest Party at the Harbor View Health Care Facility on October 25th. The residents were treated to an afternoon of entertainment by the children of P.S. 8. The children of the first and third grades in Halloween costumes and the cheerleaders in their blue and white uniforms performed songs, poems and cheers for the party. Afterwards the children mingled with the people to talk to them and have their pictures taken. It was this interaction of the young and the old that sparked the joy and happiness that filled the dining room for the rest of the day. After the entertainment, RNA neighbors served cookies, cakes, candy and apple juice to the people. Additional music was provided by Dr. Gus Promollo at the piano and Mary Pulchaski singing old favorite standards.

RNA organized the party as a way of thanking the Harbor View and its residents for use of the facilities to hold our monthly meetings. Karen Funk deserves the credit for organizing the whole affair and coordinating the resources of Harbor View, P.S. 8 and the RNA. Thanks go to Charles Trefurt, Jeanne Ristaino, and the teachers of P.S. 8 for contributing their time and energy to this worthy enterprise. Without the help of Mike Antonicello, Director of Theraptic Recreation and Mike Melchionne, Recreation Therapist of the Harbor View staff who coordinated the scheduling of the entire residential family, there would not have been such a successful affair.

And last but not least, love and kisses to our RNA people: Kathy Brennan, Theresa Graul, Carin Lewis, Jack and Madeline Rea, Debbie Torres and Marie Tuzzo who hosted the party and made everyone feel happy to be there. Even the children of the neighborhood helped: Stephanie and Jay Jay Torres, Bobby Lewis, Orly Suarez and Jose Fodour served food, talked to the residents and bussed the tables at the end. One last thank you goes to all the neighbors who made homemade cakes and cookies for the party (even dietetic goodies were baked).

The success of the party was evidenced in the conversations between the residents the next day. Plans are being arranged between Charles Trefurt and Mike Antonicello for future holiday gatherings with the children. The children returned in full costume regalia led by a properly attired "Bishop" Charles Trefurt on Halloween Day through the halls of the residency.

Mike Antonicello hopes to have more affairs like this at Harbor View as a way of integrating the residents into the community. By the way, Mike is looking for neighbors to volunteer their time to visiting and working with the residents a couple of days a week. He can be contacted at the Harbor View Health Care Facility at 963-1800.

(Don't miss pictures at the end of this Newsletter)

THIS IS A DRAFT OF A LETTER THAT RNA PLANS TO SEND TO PROPERTY OWNERS ON PALISADE AVENUE

Dear Property owner,

Riverview Neighborhood Association is a local organization working in the Heights. Our boundaries are Ogden and Palisade Avenues from Cuneo Place to Bowers Street. We have an active membership of approximately 130 people that meet every second Tuesday of the month at the Harbor View Health Care Facility on Ogden and Franklin. RNA is not affiliated with any political party, organization or elected official.

As property owners and residents of Palisade Avenue, we feel certain you are concerned about the betterment of our neighborhood regarding beautification, development, safety, and the overall quality of life.

We at the RNA are also concerned with these matters and wish to extend ourselves in any way possible to achieve a "better life in the Heights."

We have enclosed a brochure about the Heights Neighborhood Housing Services, which is a non-profit community-based organization committed to neighborhood revitalization. There are home improvement programs and loans available at reduced interest rates. HNHS is willing to help you become acquainted with these programs as well as help you apply for them.

We would like to mention that a maximum amount of beautification can be achieved by simply having a tree planted in front of your home or building. It would only cost $12.00 and would make a world of difference. It is a good place to start. Enclosed is an application for a tree from the Jersey City Division of Forestry.

If we can be of any service to you, please feel free to contact our association. Remember, we can all benefit from residing in a neighborhood we can all be proud of.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
THE RNA

IN MEMORIUM

RNA is saddened by the passing of Victor J. Tagliaferro. Mr. Tagliaferro, acting in his capacity as an investigator for the Division of Traffic Engineering, participated in our Mountain Road Forum on March 12, 1985. He patiently heard all our arguments concerning the reopening of the Road and expressed the Division's opinion that "enforcement problems concerning illegal dumping notwithstanding, we are of the opinion that the roadway could be re-opened to vehicle and pedestrian traffic." He stated that if the neighborhood can come to a consensus on Mountain Road, Traffic Engineering would go along with it.

Mr. Tagliaferro was a member of the J.C. Police Department, the Heights NHS, the Ward D Democratic Club and the Columbia Avenue Block Association.

As a public servant and community leader, Victor Tagliaferro will be missed not only by the Heights, but by all of Jersey City.

—Dee Ipsaro

RIVERVIEW PARK FORUM

Work is proceeding on the organization of our Riverview Park Forum. It is now scheduled for the evening of December 8, 1985 at P.S. 8 between Franklin and Hancock Streets. (This special gathering will be held instead of RNA's regular December meeting at Harbor View.) The purpose of this Forum, which was authorized by a membership vote at RNA's April 9, 1985 meeting, is to discuss the problems, solutions and long range plans for Riverview Park.

Invitations have gone out to city officials and local community leaders who will make up the panel at this public meeting. The list of the people invited include: Captain Galvin of the North District Police station; Joan Earls of the Division of Leisure Activities at Public Works; Richard Wolowicz of the City Forestry; Councilman Thomas Hart; Council President Glenn Cunningham; Ralph Notomaso of Mt. Pleasant N.A.; Steve Garibaldi of Ogden Ave. N.A.; Theodore Conrad, the Park historian; Richard Brown of the Heights N.H.A.; Ted Flack of the local Neighborhood Improvement Program and Robert Cotter, Director of Urban Research and Design from H.E.D. This panel will listen to and answer comments from the local community within each of their areas of expertise. From this Forum, RNA hopes to get a consensus to present to the City for the long overdue renovation of the Park.

The Parks Committee is going to hold several pre-planning meetings in November to prepare for this event.

—Chuck Hollowell

BLOCKWATCH STICK-UP

At our last meeting in October, all those who attended were given two Jersey City Crimewatch decals: one to be placed on our home window or door and the other to be placed on our car's fender. The purpose of these stickers is to advertise the formation of our Block Watch and to warn potential intruders that our neighborhood is watching.

Unfortunately, not many of these decals have been mounted on our homes and cars. It is only with this visual sign that people in our neighborhood will begin to realize the goal of a safer crime-free area.

Please, put the decals on a front window or door and on your car. If you do not have the decals, you can get them at our next meeting. Remember, a safer neighborhood is up to you.

—RICH La POSTA

NO "LOSERS" ON BUS TRIP

There were no big winners on the RNA bus trip to Resorts Int'l. in Atlantic City, but no one who made the excursion was a loser in so far as having had a good day was concerned. The weather cooperated and the company was congenial. The Red and Tan Corporation sent us a comfortable and clean bus, and the ride both down and back went smoothly. There was a 50/50 raffle held on the bus and we had two winners, Kay Lederman and Maria Belez. We made $41 for the RNA treasury.

Mike Cioffi, chairman of the trip, and his co-chairwoman Maria Tuzzo wish to thank everyone for being on time for the bus departure in both directions. It was a fun day and we hope to do it again.

(Look for pictures on last page).

— Maria Tuzzo

THE RIVERVIEW FINE ART PRESS

By: R. S. Gerber

The Riverview Arts district is slowly but surely, becoming more than just a designation as more artists and craftsmen settle in the area. John Hutcheson, Master printer and sole proprietor of the Riverview Fine Art Press, on 376 Palisade Avenue, has quietly been operating his workshop for a year now. Mr. Hutcheson's credentials are extensive: he earned his title of Master printer from Tamarind Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the only formal school in the world training lithographic Master printers to work in shops serving artists. Tamarind is credited with saving the art of lithography during the early 1960's and with creating a pool of trained printers who opened shops across North America; Hutcheson Company, Nova Scotia, Canada, Tyler Graphics, New York and Petersburg Press, New York have also benefitted from John's talent and expertise.

The Riverview Fine Art Press also employs the services of two assistants: Kate Norman and Sharon Duffy. Kate is a recent graduate of Mount Holyoke College. She has been studying the art of lithography for three years. Currently living in Brooklyn, she hopes to find suitable quarters here. Kate plans to continue working as a printer and eventually open her own shop. Sharon Duffy has returned to New Jersey, settling on Palisade Ave.; she has just completed an MFA in print making at Skidmore College in Indiana Uni-

(Continued on page 4)

Lagniappe gourmet treats

Carol Norman with customer Beverlyn Rivers (Photo: Maria Tuzzo)

GOURMET DESSERTS AVAILABLE IN HEIGHTS

Lagniappe is a Cajun word meaning "Something Extra", and something extra is what you get at a new gourmet pastry shop located at 333 Palisade Ave. near Ferry St.

Perhaps Roy Norman, who owns Lagniappe, with wife Carol, had his New Orleans background in mind when he named his shop, or perhaps he had in mind the extra care he takes in preparing his original recipes, but whatever his reason, the name certainly fits.

The shop is small, but the items offered rival any to be found in large bakeries or restaurants. Carol Norman, originally from New York, leaves the baking to her talented husband, while she serves the customers slices of chocolate walnut torte, lemon or coconut custard cake and the ever popular cheese cake.

The Normans have lived in the Heights about four years and see a new and exciting future for the neighborhood. They want to be a part of that future, and at the same time, bring to the people something special in the way of food products. They have accomplished their goal. Their products are made with quality and quantity in mind. Roy not only uses all natural ingredients, but he is very generous with the amounts as well. The result is a dessert that is absolutely delicious.

Only open since June, Carol and Roy have already added coffee, hot chocolate and hot cider to their bill of fare. In keeping with their policy of only natural ingredients, distilled water is used to prepare the drinks. They hope to add other items to the display case such as brownies and quiche. The cakes can be purchased by slice, in quarters or whole. If you can't decide on a flavor you can get what the Normans call a sampler. That is, a quarter of a cake consisting of four different slices. Whole cakes can also be ordered in sampler form. The price is reasonable and larger orders are discounted. A forty-eight hour notice is recommended when ordering a whole cake. The Lagniappe Shop, whose logo was hand lettered by Carol Norman, is open Mon-Fri. 12 noon to 6 p.m. and Sat. 10 am - 6 pm. and their phone number is 795-0269.

— Maria Tuzzo

ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Our illustrious Theodore Conrad was awarded Artist of the Year at the Hudson Artists' 32nd Annual Regional Exhibit on October 28th. The exhibit includes the work of over 100 artists from Hudson County, Newark, and New York City. It is being held at the Bayonne Public Library through November 8th.

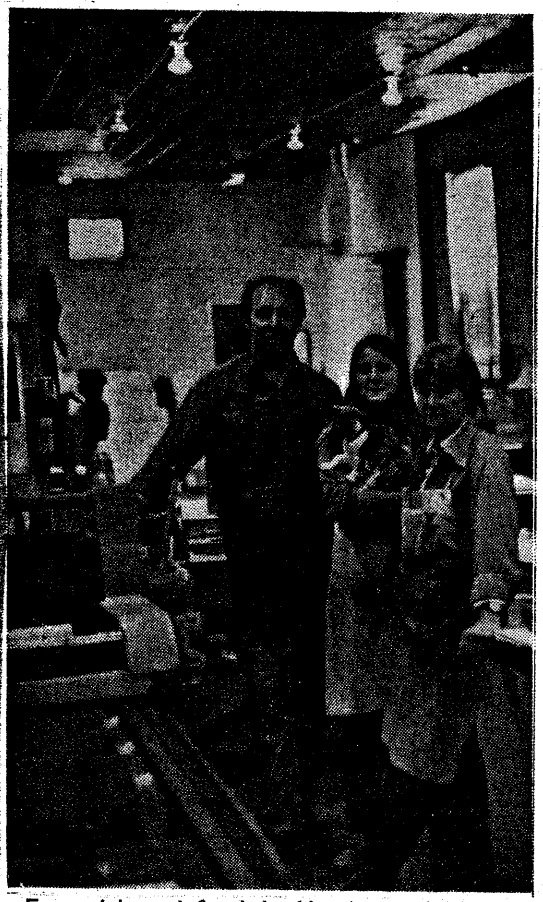
Ted's exhibit includes architectural drawings, detailed room renderings from the Metropolitan Museum and two models of Jersey City projects: the Old Courthouse Square and Liberty State Park. Some of the most delightful of his works were the landscape impressions done in pastels and shellac.

FINE ARTS PRESS . . . (Continued)

versity. While in Indiana, Sharon participated in regional art shows in the Midwest. She is currently teaching print making at Montclair State College as well as assisting John in his shop. She hopes to achieve artistic success and professional recognition in her home state.

Lithography is a printing technique employed for the production of original fine art prints. Though the prints are done in multiples, the process is not one of reproduction, which attempts to make exact duplicates. In lithography, a print is created, step by step, making it an original, as opposed to a replica. Each print is signed and numbered by the artist. The process employed at the Riverview Fine Art Press was invented about two hundred years ago in Bavaria. Mr. Hutcheson employs two types of presses, one motorized, the other, manually operated.

Future plans for the Riverview Fine Art Press include a finished gallery in the front of the workshop. John has worked with artists such as Bill Rice, Eric Fischl, Robert DeNiro, Hellen Frankethaler, Tom Nozkoski and Gary Stephan. He has also collaborated with artists from our district, including Kit Sailer, Manuel Macarulla, Risa Gerber, Richard La Rovere, Dean Howell and Peter Homitsky. Though the gallery is as yet unfinished, the shop is open daily, and a visitor can see many of these prints as well as the production facilities.



From right to left: John Hutcheson, Kate Norman, Kitty Baby and Sharon Duffy.
Photo: Yau Chi Kwok

MOUNTAIN ROAD UPDATE (Continued)

members of the RNA as sanitation inspectors with the power to issue summons.

Both Councilmen have also contacted the Police Department to have better patrolling of the Mountain Road for any illegal activities.

Edith Springer

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12,

AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE

HARBOR VIEW
HEALTH CARE CENTER

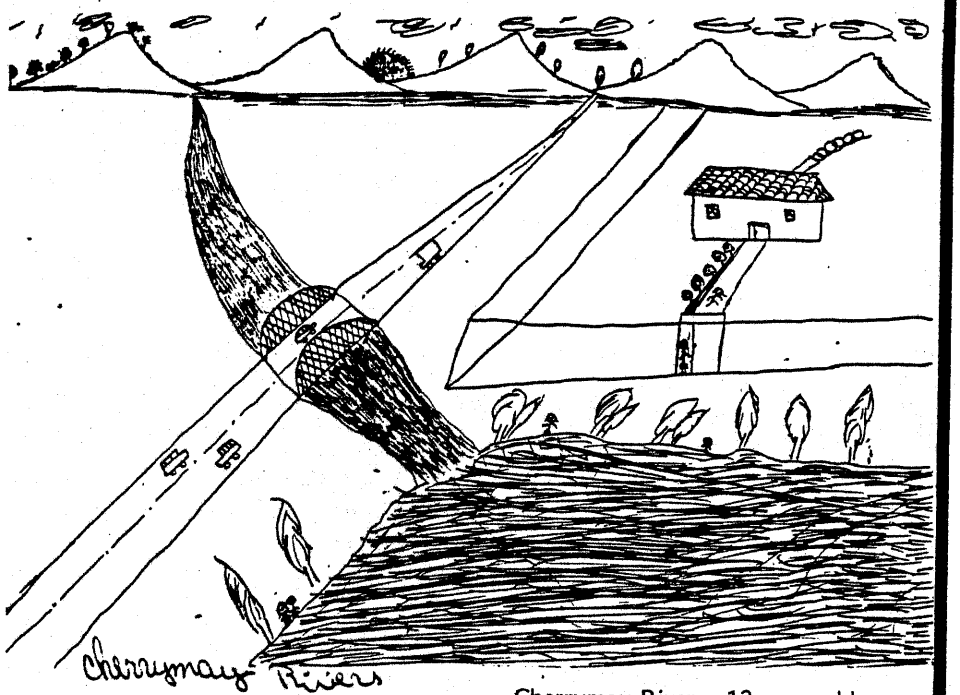
MEET THE MAYOR

COMMUNITY AWARENESS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Risa Gerber — *Carin Lewis* — *Raquel Sweeny*
Marie "Dee" Ipsaro — *Edith Springer* — *Maria Tuzzo*

SPECIAL THANKS TO KATHY BRENNAN
NEWSLETTER LAYOUT AND DESIGN: Raquel Sweeny

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Cherrymay Rivers - 13 years old
Landscape (Honduras)

BLOCK WATCH CORNER

Illustration by Risa Gerber, member of the Community Awareness Committee

THE HALLOWEEN PARTY
AT THE
HARBOR VIEW HEALTH CARE FACILITY

Photos: Vito Brunetti

MEMBERS OF RNA ON THE BUS TO ATLANTIC CITY

Photos: Maria Tuzzo

ANOTHER FUN DAY

ORGANIZED BY

THE RNA

Concept and Design: Ellen Boggs

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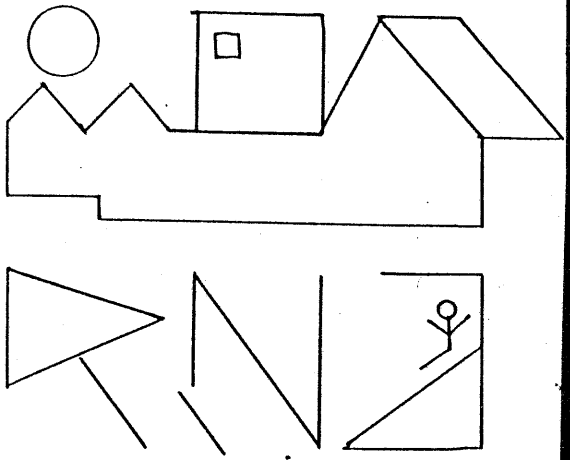

Riverview Neighborhood Association

"BUILDING A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS"

Concept and Design: Risa Gerber

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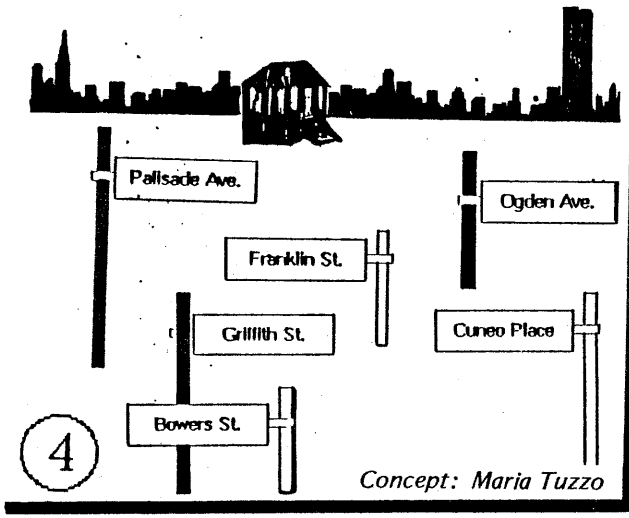
Concept and Design: Raquel Sweeny

3

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



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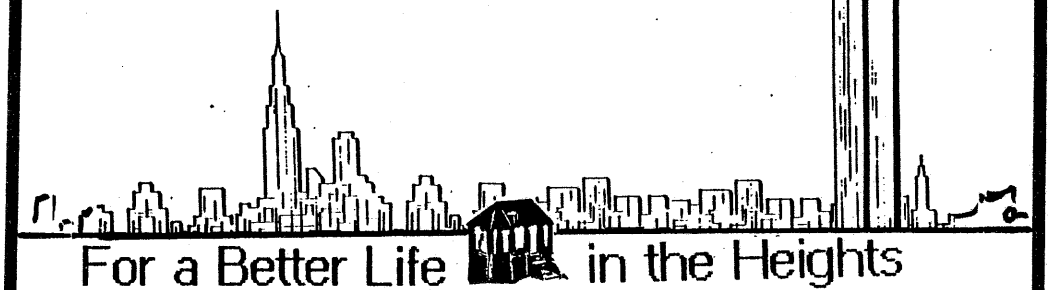
Concept: Maria Tuzzo

Riverview Neighborhood Association



For a Better Life in the Heights

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Concept and Design: Raquel Sweeny

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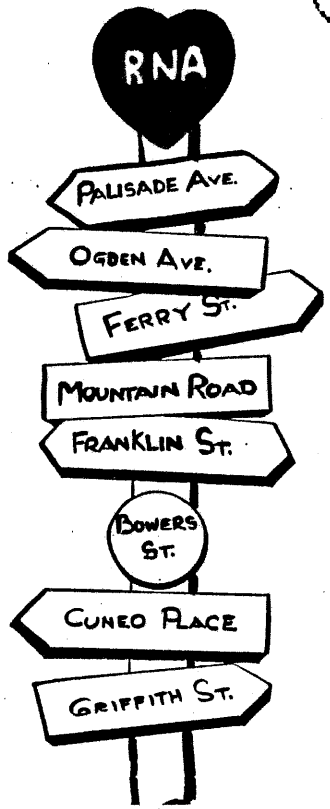

Concept: Liz Murray & Dee Ipsaro

T-SHIRT CONTEST

RULES TO THIS GAME:

YOU, AS AN RNA MEMBER, ARE ENTITLED TO CHOOSE THE DESIGN THAT WILL BE PRINTED ON THE T-SHIRT FOR OUR ORGANIZATION. LOOK CAREFULLY AT THESE DESIGNS. KEEP IN MIND THAT MOST OF THESE DRAWINGS ARE JUST CONCEPTS, NOT FINAL ART WORK AND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN REDUCED CONSIDERABLY FROM THE ORIGINAL SIZE. EVERY DRAWING HAS A NUMBER. THE REASON FOR THIS IS THAT WHEN YOU COME TO OUR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 12, YOU WILL HAVE AN IDEA OF YOUR CHOICE. AT THE MEETING, ORIGINAL SIZE COPIES OF THE DRAWINGS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED WITH THESE NUMBERS AND AT THAT TIME, YOU WILL CHOOSE THE DRAWING YOU PREFER, AND WE'LL PROCEED TO SELECT THE ONE THAT HAS COME OUT AS A WINNER.